The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Nothing can be truly great which is not right.—Johnson.

WHOLE NO. 1130. WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1932 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary VOL. 22, NO. 39.

A. F. of L. Convention Proceedings

The annual conentions of the American Federation of Labor usually last two weeks. The first week is largely given over to committee work and addresses by fraternal delegates and visitors friendly to the labor movement.

This issue of the American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service, in addition to the action of the Cincinnati convention on unemployment insurance and the thirty-hour week, gives considerable space to news digests of most of the addresses relivered before the convention during the first week. They are compiled from the official text of the convention proceedings.

The next issue will contain a full account of the second week's proceedings, also compiled from the official text. The two issues will make available for the labor press a complete summary of the action taken by the 1932 convention on every subject that came before the delegates.

WAGES CUT MUCH MORE THAN COST OF LIVING

Director of U. S. Women's Bureau Declares Workers' Pay Has Been Slashed Three Times More Than Living Costs—Condemns Low Wage Paid Women Employes.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—Trenchant criticism of employers for reducing the wages of working women below decent living standards was voiced by Miss Mary Anderson, director of the Women's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor, in an address to the delegates of the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor here.

Miss Anderson also administered a deserved rebuke to low wage employers who continue to howl about the necessity for further wage reductions because of the decrease in the cost of living. She pointed out that while during the last two years the cost of living has fallen about 18 per cent, employers have driven wages down 54 per cent.

"In the Women's Bureau we are gathering information with regard to the employment of women," Miss Anderson said.

"We have found that women in industry have increased enormously in the last decade. In the past year or a half more women were employed in 1930 than were employed in 1920.

Low Wages Paid Women Workers

"The wages given to women are not nearly as high as would be given to men if they were employed to that extent. Women are getting about one-third to one-half less wages than men are getting for practically the same kind of work.

"Now, that is not the fault of either the women or the men. The women do not want to work for three, four, five and six dollars a week, as they are doing today. They have to work. They have to earn a living, not only for themselves, but for dependents, and for that reason they have to have a job. And they have to take whatever they can get, because they are the minority in the labor movement. I don't mean in the trade union movement, but they are the minority that are getting the jobs.

Employers Hire Cheapest Labor

"You will remember, I know, that the coming minority of our country are the immigrants. I was one of those myself. The immigrant had to take whatever they could get.

"Today that is not so. Today it is the women in the labor market and now we are beginning to have the Negro women and the Negro men in the labor market who are getting some of the jobs at even lower wages than the women are paid.

Living Cost Cut 18 Per Cent; Wages, 54 Per Cent

"In the last two years of depression the cost of living has gone down about 18 per cent. Employment has gone down 23 per cent and wages have gone down 54 per cent.

"Those of the population and employers who are saying that wages ought to work cheaper because the cost of living has gone down as much as the cost of living has gone down.

Shorter Hours, Higher Pay

"The whole wage question is very precarious, and, as President Green said in his stirring talk, if we cannot raise the wages so that we can get purchasing power in this land of ours, we are not going to make a dent in the depression.

"The shorter work day and better wages, real purchasing power among the workers—that is what all, they are the large majority—are the cardinal things that will have to go hand in hand if we are to emerge from the depression we are in now."

WAGE CUTS NO REMEDY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT

President of Railroad Trainmen Says Machinery Under Employers' Control Creates Jobless Army—Pay Reductions Injure Business by Reducing Buying Power of Masses.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—"The experience the railroad industry has had with wage reductions has proven the absurdity of the contention that reduction in wages will stimulate business and increase employment," declared W. N. Whitney, president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen of America, in an address here before the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor.

"In June, 1922, five months after the ten per cent wage reduction in the railroad industry," Mr. Whitney continued, "there were 69,996 less employes than in January, 1932, with a reduction in the basic wage deduction and a month in which it was reasonably expected that railroad employment had already reached the irreducible minimum."

Dividends and Poverty

"When the facts are fully disclosed, it must be conceded that there is an appalling amount of loose thinking and deliberate warping of the facts to serve in connection with our rather feeble attempts to struggle ourselves out of the whole unnecessary economic predicament in which this country find itself.

The record of dividends paid by railroads, not to mention other kinds of unearned increments, reveals in bold relief the true causes of present economic conditions.

"It proves that whatever may be the condition of unemployment and mass poverty, dividends paid and economic improvement until the point is reached where financial collapse is made imminent, due to the attrophied consuming power of the masses.

"It offers convincing proof of the ever increasing concentration of wealth in this country.

Machinery Injures Workers

"It proves the devastating effect of machine efficiency on the workers of our country when industrial leaders adopt a policy of appropriating the increasing fruits of machine efficiency for the enhancement of private profit instead of utilizing a considerable part of them by reducing the working time and increasing the hourly rate of pay of workers.

"When we analyze the trends of prices, dividends, earnings and the inflated capital, and unemployment, it is not difficult to determine who is responsible for the principal part of the conditions.

"In the depressing year of 1931, the people were led to believe that our railroad industry was headed for bankruptcy, but dividends paid that year were almost equal to those paid in the comparatively prosperous year of 1925.

Large Profits Cause Unemployment

"These facts clearly show that increasing private profits and a determined resistance to any equitable division of profits resulting from modern efficiency are the real causes of unemployment and mass poverty, the final result of which has paralyzed our purchasing power and created, as a crisis that has reached private profits and will destroy private capital if permitted to continue.

"Stating it another way, selfishness is responsible for most of the muddling even to those who are selfish and greedy."

Fallacy of Wage Cutting

"It is apparent that the thinking public and responsible leaders should cease worrying so much about our financial and productive systems and begin to take action which will revive the purchasing power in the consuming masses powers" Mr. Whitney concluded.

"Effective purchasing power is the very life-blood of all business. It forms the structure on which the prosperity of our financial institutions must rest.

"When the source that gives lifeblood is tapped, the body must become weak and anemic.

"The flow of this life-blood of our economic body may be increased only by a fair distribution of wealth and work through the adoption of shorter work hours with increased hourly rates of pay.

"Wage cutting is tantamount to a surgical practice that would bleed a weak and anemic body.

"Idle talk about preserving the integrity of our financial institutions at the expense of the consuming masses is tantamount to a doctor prescribing a skin beautifying treatment for a patient suffering from chronic anemia."

MACHINES IN INDUSTRY MAKE WORKERS SLAVES

Senator Davis Condemns System That Produces Millions of Jobless and Hunger in Midst of Plenty—Urges Public Works for Jobless Relief.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—Strong condemnation of those who own and control industry for their persistent refusal to set up labor policies which will enable the workers to appropriate an equitable amount of the tremendous increase in the world's output under modern machine efficiency was voiced by James J. Davis, United States Senator, Pennsylvania, before the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor here.

"There has been progress in the world, and all our hopes are bound up with the aim of further progress," Senator Davis said.

Machines Turn Workers Into Slaves

"Yet, machine is both a mystery and a scandal of our age. It is the glory because it enabled man to create more wealth in twenty-four hours than the world could formerly create in eighteen centuries. It is the scandal because after it has created enough wealth to furnish a considerable degree of satisfaction to all, many are left in a condition immensely worse than were the majority of slaves in ancient Greece and Rome, who at least seemed to have had enough to eat and a roof with which to shelter their heads.

Hunger in Midst of Plenty

"There is something wrong in a society in which men go hungry while the farmers are unable to get the products of their bursting granaries; in which men go thirsty while manufacturers are able to produce in a few months, or even weeks, garments which King Solomon in all his glory would have envied; in which men sleep under bridges or on park benches while carpenters, bricklayers and stonemasons are lying idle."

Millions Permanently Jobless

"It is not necessary for me to go into details with regard to the curse of labor as to how modern machinery has increased production in the United States," Senator Davis went on. "However, I might say that we can now produce all the coal, iron, steel, cotton, shoes, steel, and other basic products needed for prosperous conditions in six months. Authorities inform us that if we return to normal employment today, because of modern machinery we can employ just a little more than half of the unemployed.

Commodities Produced Without Labor

"In our zeal to produce, science has played a very prominent part. Our farmers have made it possible for crops to grow where one grew before. It is also harvested with less manpower.

"It is the same on industry. We are building factories now and operating them not only with less men but, without manpower to handle the material from the time it enters the factory until it comes out a finished product. This means overproduction in both agriculture and industry."

Five-Day Week

Senator Davis expressed the belief that the five-day week should be supplemented by severe restrictions on the importation of foreign goods into the United States.

Public Works for Jobless Relief

As a long-range measure to curtail unemployment he recommended the creation of a Federal public works fund to be used by the Government in times of depression, such as the one we are now passing from, providing for the erection of much-needed public works." He held this stabilizing fund would be created which would do much to restore business confidence and, at the same time, would be used as a fair, equitable and just method to distribute work in such a way as will equal, and it is better to give men work than charity and every true American would prefer it.

"We have been helpful to the world and now we are beginning to realize that our first duty is to see that our own people are well housed, well nourished and well clothed, and that we should strive to do so by all means possible, but best of all by providing them with work."

30-HOUR WEEK HELD NECESSARY FOR LABOR

A. F. of L. Convention Shorter Workday Committee Declares Shorter Hours Without Wage Cuts Must Be Applied on Nation-wide Scale to Provide Work for 12,000,000 Jobless.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The 30-hour week as organized labor's immediate objective was brought before the American Federation of Labor convention here by the Shorter Workday Committee, of which Edward J. Gainor, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, was chairman.

The committee reported that after three years of unemployment and the failure of employer methods to meet the emergency there was little if any prospect of early relief "unless drastic reforms are invoked to balance production and consumption on a measurably equitable basis."

Employers Blamed for Unemployment

The committee pointed out that the only answer to the machine era was to raise wages and lessen hours along with the introduction of labor-displacing machinery.

As a definite approach to the emergency now confronting the Nation, with an unemployed army of 12,000,000, the committee said:

Shorter Hours Must Come

"The time has arrived when the American Federation of Labor should vigorously and definitely declare itself in support of a sharp reduction in the work day and the work week. It must come. There is no other way. In keeping with the best thought of the time on this subject we therefore recommend that this convention hereby declare itself in advocacy of and in proposing to the country the universal adoption without delay of the 5-day week and five-day week

"We further recommend, and for the unanswerable reasons hereinbefore stated, that such reduction in labor hours should carry with it no reduction in pay, but on the contrary wages should be maintained and steadily increased in keeping with the expansion of productive efficiency.

"We further recommend that this convention declare that this objective of the shorter work day and work week be now declared its paramount purpose and that the officers of the American Federation of Labor be instructed to spare no effort in giving purpose and direction to this movement, and that they call upon the people generally in support thereof as the only means whereby the purchasing power of the country can be restored."

The convention unanimously adopted the report of the committee.

JOHNSON URGES WORK SHARING, HIGH WAGES

National Commander of American Legion Says Job Security and Increased Buying Power for Masses Are Necessary For Business Recovery.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—"The greatest problem that faces America today, in all its manifestations, whether they be social, banking, industry, transportation, agriculture, politics or economics, is the employment of labor in the final and last analysis," declared Louis A. Johnson, national commander of the American Legion, in addressing the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor here.

"This is the most direct and vital problem of any organization, aside from its humanitarian side, it is likewise a direct and vital challenge to the American Legion from a purely patriotic side.

Million Jobs Created

"The American Legion joined hands with organized labor, industry and other elements in our national life last year in bringing into existence the one best of our combined activities. More than a million jobs in one way or another were created, found or inspired through such joint action.

"While many millions of dollars found their way into the pockets of deserving and destitute families through relief and on depression, and while the magnificent effort did brighten the dark clouds that did rest over the people of the American people to the point of starting the upward climb temporarily, we must realize that the fundamental causes have not yet been found.

Recommends Work Sharing

Mr. Johnson said the American Legion advocated the shorter work day and work week and indorsed the principle of "Job security by job sharing." He declared that in the attempt to solve the principle of the 1932 convention of his organization instructed the 19,522 posts of the Legion to cooperate in the work undertaken by the banking and industrial committees of the Federal government "to put into action nationwide operation methods for sharing the work and service per day and per week of every employment to the largest possible number of those who depend upon their livelihood upon salaries and wages."

Wages and Living Standards

"We urge that wages and salaries of all who toil be such as will fully permit the great mass of our people to live in comfort and decency, and to constantly enlarge the buying power of our people and thus enhance our domestic prosperity.

"We will continue the campaign to promote public confidence, to restore confidence in our Government and business institutions, to bring hoarded money into circulation and to induce employment through industries revived by normal activities."

In introducing Mr. Johnson to the delegates, President Green of the American Federation of Labor pointed out that the A. F. of L. and the American Legion had maintained very friendly relations ever since the establishment of the organization of ex-service men after the World War. "My distinguished predecessor and your great leader, President Gompers," he said, "met with the officers of the American Legion when it was launched and developed an understanding that has remained with us ever since."

JOBLESS INSURANCE GETS AFL SUPPORT

Cincinnati Convention Approves Compulsory State Plan with Employers Contributing Entire Fund from Payrolls—Green Says Rights of Union Members Are Protected.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The convention of the American Federation of Labor adopted the State fund plan of compulsory unemployment insurance by an overwhelming majority. Only five delegates voted against it.

The plan, which was recommended by the executive council of the Federation, provides for the establishment of a State fund by employers through contributions for payrolls. It was estimated that 3 per cent of the total payrolls would raise the fund. Benefits not to exceed $1 a week would be paid jobless workers after three weeks of idleness. The funds would be administered by a joint labor and industry commission and private insurance companies would be barred from writing the insurance.

In urging the adoption of the resolution, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, said:

"There is no man who would not rather work than receive relief benefits. But if work is denied to men they have relief. Therefore we insist unemployment insurance is a proper trade union men against disregard of union rules."

PERKINS SAYS UNIONS ARE THE WORKERS HOPE

Cincinnati, Ohio.—Trade unionism first, last, and all the time, 100 per cent patronage of union-made goods and services, organized labor, and the proper regard for private property, were stressed as the fundamentals upon which the workers can rely by George W. Perkins, veteran president of the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, at the department's annual convention here.

"We must determine to preserve our economic rights of private ownership as guaranteed in our national constitution and affirmed as one of the principles upon which the union labor movement is founded," Perkins said.

"This is the time to go back again to following union principles more than ever before. We must strengthen the position of the union movement by insisting that union workers buy union made goods and that unions call to the attention of the public both principles and products of crafts of our organization.

"Workers are going to organize. If arrogant trust owners will not permit labor to organize peacefully, in the open light of publicity, in trade unions that stand for equality and private ownership of property, some may organize secretly with malice and resentment in their hearts and minds.

Strengthen the Unions

"We must build up and strengthen our unions, or we may find ourselves wearing a badge of degrading servitude pinned to us by organized wealth in the place of the union emblem of liberty and freedom secured by our unions and their union labels.

"We do not object to employers organizing for their own protection. We hope that they will and that by such jointly coordinate through voluntarily arbitration to protect the just rights of both labor and capital. I do not speak for the organized trust owners. Some of them are making many trades to, the underpaid workers organizing.

"I have unlimited faith in the ultimate success of our trade union movement," he concluded. "This faith is based on the record of our past achievements."

BRITISH EMPLOYERS BLAMED FOR JOBLESS

Charles Dukes Tells A. F. of L. Convention That Wholesale Wage Reductions Reduced Buying Power of Labor Millions of Pounds and Destroyed Market for Goods.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—"In England today we have 300,000 miners, unemployed, redundant, and there are thousands of homes in which workers have no luxury.

"We have a quarter of a million members of the building trades unemployed, and nine millions of our people are living in overcrowded conditions.

"We have thousands of our textile workers unemployed, thousands of our best makers put of work in a nation that is underclothed and badly shod," Charles Dukes, M. P., of the British Parliament scourge in Great Britain was the theme to the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor here by Charles Dukes, district secretary of the Lancashire District of the National Union of General and Municipal Workers and one of the fraternal delegates from the British Trades Union Congress to the convention.

Mr. Dukes charged that those who own and control the present capitalist system of production are solely responsible for the catastrophe which has overwhelmed not only the British workers but the workers in other countries as well.

Employers Attack Wage Standards

He said that after the World War the capitalist class of Europe was determined assault on wage standards and living standards that in the beginning a few short years the wages of the workers were depressed by 700,000,000 pounds a year."

He pointed out that "Germany purchased from us one-third of our exports, did the Scandinavian countries. In fact, all over the world capitalists demanded that the liability of war should be placed upon the backs of the working people. In their greed they destroyed the markets upon which industry is dependent."

Low Wages Cause Unemployment

"There is no great mystery about this," Mr. Dukes went on. "The day has come to face the brutal facts of the situation.

"When you take ten shillings, or three dollars a week, out of the wages that the wage earner must take home, you have lost the purchasing power demanded by the store from the manufacturer, and the manufacturer commences to put workers on shorter time or discharges them. When you multiply that by the thousands affected you won't need to be a political philosopher to discover the germs of the international crisis.

"Greed, the hunger for profit, the desire for big dividends, lies at the root of the world catastrophe and no solution will get us out of that difficulty. It must be faced. We stand in a position of responsibility. We are regarded as leaders and we must lead. That is our function. We must lead forward. We must not be pushed from behind."

Social Services Attacked

Mr. Dukes declared that in their determination to destroy the system of production for profit and cases the costs against the workers British employers and the Tory Governments since the World War had attempted to destroy the social services which the trade union movement had secured after years of struggle.

Drastic reductions were made in appropriations for health, education, old-age pensions, and unemployment insurance. The Labor Government, which wrecked the present Tory Government, he said, struck two hundred thousand persons off the unemployment benefit rolls and compelled thousands of them to resort to poor relief.

Labor Will Control the World

"Man is a social and a political animal," Mr. Dukes concluded. "We believe the time has gone when labor can remain quiescent, begging here of a friend and asking another one for a favor.

"A new condition has arisen. Labor is entering into its might. Labor will control the world in the future, not in a narrow sense of that word, for when they have emancipated the workers they will no longer be the class that needs to be emancipated."

MACHINERY DENOUNCED AS CURSE TO LABOR

Catholic Archbishop Blames Employers for Jobless Millions—Urges Shorter Hours Without Pay Cuts and Social Control of Labor-Displacing Machinery.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—Most Rev. John T. McNicholas, Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Cincinnati, in an address here before the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor, delivered a firm and logical denunciation of the antisocial policy in the introduction of labor-displacing machinery followed by those who own and control industry, and insisted that the right to a job should be made real for all.

Right to Employment

Archbishop McNicholas said, in part:

"Every willing and able-bodied man has a right to employment. He has, we may say, a greater right to it than he has to the bread of life, since it is the means of giving him the very bread that sustains life.

"God has been infinitely generous in giving power to the earth and in storing away in nature hidden forces which will supply man's every need. Man has been given reason and science to unlock all these forces. One after another has been discovered, and is being used.

"It is clear today that our country could sustain many times its present population, and that by means of reasonable comforts for every family.

Employers Turn Machinery Into a Curse

"If you can unite with capital, with governmental approval, the controlling industry, you can regulate its output. You can withhold the wealth of the inventors a holiday. Some say that the balance of things in the world is disturbed by the excessive number of engineers. Many place the disturbance of the balance between supply and demand on the machine, which is causing overproduction.

"Those of the comparatively few rich who, through unrestrained competition, acquired the wealth of the nation, has made the giant machine a curse instead of a blessing, as God and nature intended it should be.

"The machine and its output must be measured in terms of humanity and the common good.

"If individuals and corporations will to multiply machines merely for gain, without regard to the consequences, the consequent misery of human beings, the creation of the antagonistic groups and of the 'State to restrain them.

Regulation Necessary

"The machine must be regulated. Through it comfort should be extended to the masses, and not just to a few masses. The drudgery of life, and especially of the factory, must be averted with through the machine. Whatever will lighten the burden of individuals and of the race must be stretched out. It must be regarded as a distinct contribution to society.

"One can realize how the wheels of industry would again revolve if in every state of the union the machinery and machinery were introduced which would give leisure to overworked wives and mothers.

"If the captains of industry of all nations would but realize that the interest in the welfare of the common people in behalf of their own selfish ends is a going on in every industry.

Employers Refuse Shorter Hours

Organized labor, he said, was insisting that a five-day week and shorter hours shown by those who own and control the textile and shoe industries. He said the demand for more goods increased, "instead of hiring new workers, instead of adjusting their machinery, they begin to go on a double shift increase the number of hours worked per day, and thus give more employment to those already employed. That is the very thing that is adding to and aggravating the already serious situation of unemployment."

Decrease Work Day and Week

Pointing out that labor's major remedy for the unemployment situation is the "reduction in the number of days worked per week and the number of hours worked per day, so that at least the work can be spread over a larger number of people and over a wider and more comprehensive territory," Mr. Green continued:

Further Delay Cannot Be Tolerated

"The point has been reached when we must speak plainly, when we must say that we cannot tolerate, we cannot understood, and when we, the men and women who labor, must tell the world that we are deeply in earnest, that we cannot tolerate this situation longer, and that a determined action be taken without further delay.

Appeal to Reason Fails

"For years we have been pressing upon industry and upon Government for the acceptance of these adjustments in working time necessary as a partial remedy for unemployment. We have been appealing to reason and judgment and to public opinion. I think we have made some progress, but not enough. We have not succeeded in what now employed on the five-day week and six hours a day or more a week day than ever before, but the number so employed are only a drop in the bucket.

"What is needed and what the country needs above and beyond any action upon this great economic reform is to bring about a condition where industrial management in America will be compelled to apply it universally, spontaneously, and over a nationwide area.

Employers Never Learn

"The trouble has been that industrial management seems never to have learned. They do not respond to the appeals made to them. They harden their minds and their consciences. They seem to think that they can find the old line and that eventually some power or by evidence will correct our economic ills.

"If our people were 30 per cent organized in all the years would be no trouble whatsoever, but about 70 per cent of the workers are not organized. Those who refuse to come with us. But even though they will not come we cannot wait for them.

"We are standing now in the midst of this great economic crisis. In the army of General Joffre stood when it was defending Paris, and he declared: 'My right wing is driven back and my right one is broken, but I have served notice that I will not strike my center.'

"And that is the position of labor: We are not going to stand still, we are going to strike for this great economic reform.

Organized Labor's Ultimatum

"Labor has proposed every reform we have ever secured, every advancement that has come to us for realization and achievement. We are really ahead of even the reluctant managers of industry, and I predict that before very long they will step out willingly and accept the reform, it will ultimately rest upon labor to secure this great reform and to constructive and practical way in order to secure this great change.

"In doing that we are fighting the battle of the unemployed, we are fighting for their cause, and we are fighting for the cause of the Nation.

"We will not be denied the realization of this great reform.

"The world must know that we must be given it in response to reason or we will secure it through force of some kind."

6-Hour Day,5-Day Week Demanded By American Federation of Labor

President Green Declares That All of Labor's Economic, Political, and Industrial Machinery Will Be Mobilized for Immediate Action—Twelve Million Unemployed Workers Must Be Provided with Jobs by Shorter Hours.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The convention of the American Federation of Labor here today took action to curtail the menace of unemployment by demanding the immediate application of the six-hour day and five-day week without reduction in pay.

The action was taken unanimously by the delegates at the conclusion of a vigorous address by William Green, president of the Federation, in support of the report of the Shorter Workday Committee, which recommended that the convention declare immediate achievement of the six-hour day and five-day week a paramount objective of the American Federation of Labor.

Declaring that labor's patience with industrial management was at an end, Mr. Green asserted that unless this great reform in the hours of labor is made "in response to reason we will secure it through force of some kind."

The convention also said he meant the use of every weapon in the union armory, economic, political, and industrial.

In opening his speech in favor of the report of the Shorter Workday Committee, Mr. Green said:

"The country is face to face with a serious problem whether we propose to dismantle industry or whether we shall make adjustments necessary to provide employment for all who are able and willing to work.

Millions Permanently Jobless

"It is apparent that it is quite impossible for industry to provide work for fifty or fifty-five million able-bodied men and women eight hours a day, five days per day and six days per week.

"We have developed such mechanical technique as to make it impossible to absorb into industry the workers of the Nation.

"Are we to resign ourselves to an economic situation where from eleven to fifteen million people are to remain idle constantly and continuously? Will our social order sustain such an economic condition as that? How long will we be patient? How long will it be tolerated? These are the questions pressing for an answer that must not be denied."

Huge Dividends Paid

Mr. Green vigorously criticized the outrageous sums which those who own and control industry have spent should be paid in wages to provide buying power. He cited the enormous amount of dividends paid to stockholders in corporations which produce the nation's commodities fashioned by the workers under conditions of labor-displacing machinery.

Machines Deprive Labor of Jobs

Pointing out that in the mining industry alone machinery has been introduced in such revolutionary amounts that in some States the same amount of coal produced shortly after the World War required only 50 per cent less men, and that the same process has been applied to out of work is going on in every industry.

Employers Refuse Shorter Hours

Organized labor, he said, was insisting that a five-day week and shorter hours shown by those who own and control the textile and shoe industries. He said the demand for more goods increased, "instead of hiring new workers, instead of adjusting their machinery, they begin to go on a double shift increase the number of hours worked per day, and thus give more employment to those already employed. That is the very thing that is

EMPLOYERS DESTROY MILLIONS OF JOBS

Spencer Miller Declares That Labor-Displacing Machinery Creates Permanent Jobless Army—Denounces Employers' "Work-Sharing" Scheme.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The devastating effect on our millions of working people of the introduction of labor-displacing production operated exclusively for the profit of those who own and control industry was emphasized in an address here by Spencer Miller, Jr., secretary of the Labor Education Bureau of America, before the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor.

As one illustration of the havoc wrought by machinery on the workers, who can only vary of getting a living is to sell their physical strength and mental ability to the employers, Mr. Miller said:

"At a cotton mill a machine which has recently been installed has a production of 191,000 bobs a day—an increase of 9,000 times over previous production.

Perhaps more startling perhaps is the recent erection of a factory in New Jersey for the production of rayon where the operations can be carried on 24 hours a day without a single worker in the plant."

Millions Permanently Jobless

The sinister figures presented by Mr. Miller were based on a recent report of the Brookings Institution of Economics, entitled "Income Distribution," which declared that in the 1929 there would not be room for one-half of the present eleven and one-half million workers.

Labor-Displacing Machines Increase

"If the grim reality of this engineering report seems a little breath-taking to you, you have only to recall that there were more inventions of labor-saving machinery in 1931 than in any year in our history. Indeed, the only group who have been fully employed are the inventors of automatic machinery. They have been perfecting labor-saving machines to throw more persons out of work!

"Nor is that all. The chairman of the Industrial Division of the Share-the-Work Movement recently made an appeal over the radio to the factory management of America to spend five billion dollars on new tools to make their obsolete plants more efficient. The logic of this statement is the way out of this one who takes thought for the morrow.

Only 16 Hours Work Per Week

"Our own industry is now operating four hours a day in four days a week can supply us with our material needs. There is no way out of this impasse save by an entire revision of the standards of valuation."

Labor's Welfare Imperilled

Pointing out that our system of production, now so completely dominated by machinery and well able to meet extensive benefit of those who own and control it, is a menace and peril to the workers, Mr. Miller went on:

"To labor the challenge of technocracy rests on the very basis of working experience. It not only imperils skill, it imperils the whole basis of work itself.

Increase in Unemployment

"If every advance in production is to bring an increase in unemployment, how can we possibly square the circle without imperiling the basis of organization itself? Here is the real challenge right in the job, any opportunity to negotiate agreements about working and work standards, and what remains—the organization without life or purpose.

Warns Against Economy

"Another challenge to labor is in terms of an old question. I refer to the matter of wages. We are to witness a revolutionary a change in the working life of the industrial worker through labor-displacing machinery, while the hours of labor are to decline steadily, the wage must increase inversely as the hours.

"It would spell disaster to our national economy to attempt to reduce purchasing power.

Work Sharing Becomes Poverty Sharing

"One of the weakest links in the Hebert Hoover-Hyde Movement in this country is its effect of dragging down to the margin of subsistence other great hosts of our workers. It becomes a movement at times not of sharing work, but sharing poverty."

"As we meet in Cincinnati upon the eve of the fourth successive winter of unemployment in this land," concluded Mr. Miller, "we think of millions of our fellow citizens unemployed, exhibiting extraordinary patience and self control under great provocation, and on the other hand witness the great unleashed force of mechanization sweeping forward in a relentless manner, no man who has eyes to see can fail to be deeply conscious of the great task that is before us all in the transformation of our social and economic life."